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OPEN FORUM

NEW HAVEN, CONN., June 14, 1913.

To the Editors of The Sigma Xi Quarterly:

You and your readers may be interested in a new departure at Yale which concerns Sigma Xi. It was felt last year by the authorities that the scholarly aspect of commencement might be even more emphasized. Some way was sought, therefore, that might involve our two honorary societies, namely, Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. A program was eventually arranged which proved very satisfactory and it is to be repeated, with some changes, this year.

The exercises are held in the chapel immeidately preceding the alumni meeting on Tuesday morning of commencement week. They are limited to one-half hour so that they will not be tiresome. This year Professor William H. Taft is to preside.

After the singing of Integer Vitae by a Glee Club quartette and introductory remarks by the presiding officer, a chosen undergraduate member of Phi Beta Kappa will give a ten minute speech on some topic of undergraduate interest. Following him an undergraduate member of Sigma Xi will likewise give a speech. After this the Dean of Yale College reads the honor appointments in Yale College and the Director of the Sheffield Scientific School those for scientific work. The exercises close by the singing of Gaudeamus Igitur.

The whole occasion is given considerable dignity by the fact that the presiding officer, the two undergraduate speakers, the president of Sigma Xi, and the president of Phi Beta Kappa will be on the platform in their academic gowns. According to those who were present last year, the exercises served decidedly to lend additional seriousness to commencement.

Yours very truly,

ROSWELL P. ANGIER,

President, The Yale Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi.